

## CLAIMS

1. A wireless communication device comprising:  
5 a biometric input device for inputting a first user's biometric data; and  
a transmitter for transmitting a first data item derived from the first user's  
biometric data to a controller.
2. The wireless communication device according claim 1 further comprising:  
10 a receiver, for receiving a first signal from the controller in response to the  
first data item derived from the first user's biometric data; and  
a processor for enabling a wireless communication device in response to  
the first signal.
- 15 3. The wireless communication device according to claim 1 wherein:  
the biometric input device comprises a fingerprint reader.
4. The wireless communication device according to claim 2 further  
comprising  
20 a receiver for receiving a second signal from the controller in response to  
the first data item derived from the first user's biometric data; and  
a processor for configuring the wireless communication device in response  
to the second signal.
- 25 5. The wireless communication device according to claim 4 wherein:  
the biometric input device comprises a fingerprint reader.

6. The wireless communication device according to claim 1 further comprising:

a pattern recognizer for extracting a set of essential biometric features  
5 from the first user's biometric data.

7. The wireless communication device according to claim 6 wherein:  
the biometric input device comprises a fingerprint reader.

10     8.     The wireless communication device according to claim 6 further comprising:

         an encoder for encoding the set of essential biometric features to produce the first data item derived from the first user's biometric data.

15     9.     The wireless communication device according to claim 1 further comprising:

             an encoder for reading the first user's biometric data, and encoding the first user's biometric data to produce the first data item derived from the first user's biometric data.

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10. The wireless communication device according to claim 1 further comprising:

a receiver for receiving a second signal from the controller in response to the first data item derived from the first user's biometric data; and

25 a processor for configuring the wireless communication device in response to the second signal.

a pattern recognizer for extracting a set of essential biometric features  
5 from the first user's biometric data; and

12. The wireless communication device according to claim 1 further  
10 comprising:

a memory for storing one or more sets of user configuration settings in association with one or more corresponding user identifications; and

13. The wireless communication device according to claim 12 wherein:  
the biometric input device comprises a fingerprint reader.

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14. The wireless communication device according to claim 1 further comprising:

a receiver for receiving a set of first user configuration settings in response to the first data item derived from the first user's biometric data; and

25 a processor for configuring the wireless communication device in accordance with the set of first user configuration settings.

15. The wireless communication device according to claim 14 wherein:  
the biometric input device comprises a fingerprint reader.

16. A wireless communication device comprising:  
a biometric input device for inputting a first user's biometric data;  
a pattern recognizer for extracting a first set of essential biometric features from the first user's biometric data;
- 5 a memory for storing a second user's biometric data; and  
a comparator for comparing the first user's biometric data and the second user's biometric data and issuing a comparison output signal.
17. The wireless communication device according to claim 16 further  
10 comprising  
a processor for enabling the wireless communication device in response to the comparison output signal.
18. The wireless communication device according to claim 16 further  
15 comprising:  
a transmitter for transmitting a data item derived from the first user's biometric data in response to the comparison output signal.
19. The wireless communication device according claim 18 further comprising:  
20 a receiver for receiving a first signal from a controller in response to the controller receiving the data item; and  
a processor for enabling the wireless communication device in response to the first signal.
20. The wireless communication device according claim 18 further comprising:  
a receiver for receiving a first signal from a controller in response to the data item; and  
a processor for disabling the wireless communication device in response to the first signal.

21. The wireless communication device according to claim 18 further comprising

a receiver for receiving a second signal from the controller in response to the data item derived from the first user's biometric data; and

5 a processor for configuring the wireless communication device in response to the second signal.

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a transmitter for transmitting a first signal based on an outcome of the search to the wireless communication device.

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a pattern recognizer for extracting a set of essential biometric features from the first data item.

5 configuration settings corresponding to the user's biometric data; and  
a transmitter for transmitting the configuration settings to the wireless  
communication device.

25. The controller according to claim 24 further comprising:  
10 a pattern recognizer for extracting a set of essential biometric features from the first data item.

26. A reconfigurable apparatus comprising:
  - an input device for receiving a first user's biometric data;
  - a first memory for storing a plurality of sets of one or more configuration settings corresponding respectively to a plurality of users' biometric data; and
  - a search engine for finding a first set of one or more configuration settings corresponding to the first user's biometric data in the first memory.
27. The reconfigurable apparatus according to claim 26 wherein:
  - the input device comprises a biometric reader.
28. The reconfigurable apparatus according to claim 26 wherein:
  - the biometric reader comprises a fingerprint reader.
29. The reconfigurable apparatus according to claim 26 wherein:
  - the input device comprises a wireless receiver.
30. The reconfigurable apparatus according to claim 26 further comprising:
  - a pattern recognizer for extracting a first set of essential biometric features from the first user's biometric data.



31. A remote control comprising:  
a biometric sensor for reading in a biometric data set from a user.
32. The remote control according to claim 31 wherein the biometric sensor  
comprises:  
a fingerprint sensor.
33. The remote control according to claim 31 further comprising:  
a wireless transmitter for transmitting the biometric data set to a  
reconfigurable apparatus.
34. The remote control according to claim 33 wherein the biometric sensor  
comprises:  
a fingerprint sensor.
35. The remote control according to claim 31 further comprising:  
a pattern recognizer for extracting a first set of essential features from the  
biometric data; and  
a transmitter for transmitting the first set of essential features to a  
reconfigurable apparatus.
36. The remote control according to claim 35 wherein the biometric sensor  
comprises:  
a fingerprint sensor.

5 a memory for storing a plurality of sets of one or more configuration settings corresponding to a plurality of sets of essential biometric features;  
a search engine for finding a first set of one or more configuration settings corresponding to the first set of essential biometric features in the memory; and  
a transmitter for transmitting the first set of one or more configuration settings to a reconfigurable apparatus.

a fingerprint sensor.

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5 the method comprising the steps of:

in response to detecting depression of the button, reading a first signal from the fingerprint sensor; and

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